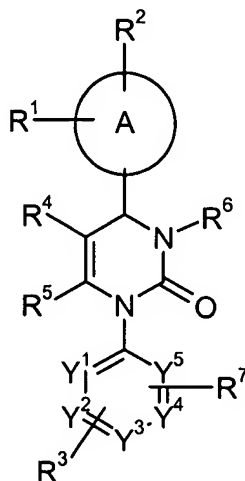


**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A compound of the general formula (I)



wherein

A represents an aryl or heteroaryl ring,

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>2</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> independently from each other represent hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, hydroxy or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, wherein C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy can be further substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy,

R<sup>4</sup> represents trifluoromethylcarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylcarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkenoxycarbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, C<sub>6</sub>-C<sub>10</sub>-arylaminocarbonyl, arylcarbonyl, heteroarylcarbonyl, heterocyclcarbonyl, heteroaryl, heterocycl or cyano, wherein C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylcarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, mono- and di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl can be further substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkyl, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-

alkoxycarbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- and di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonylamino, (C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonyl)-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylamino, cyano, amino, mono- and di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylamino, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl and tri-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl)-silyl, and wherein heteroarylcarbonyl, heterocyclylcarbonyl, heteroaryl and heterocyclyl can be further substituted with C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl,

R<sup>5</sup> represents C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, which can be substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkenoxo, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylthio, amino, mono- and di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylamino, arylamino, hydroxycarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl and the radical -O-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl-O-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl,

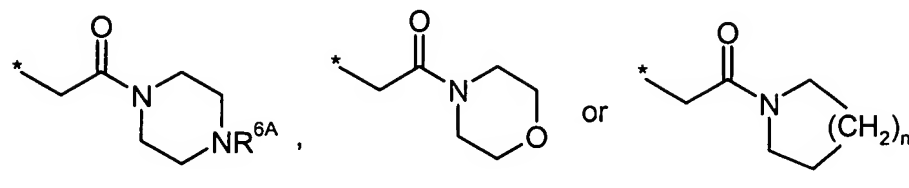
or

R<sup>5</sup> represents amino,

R<sup>6</sup> represents hydrogen, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, formyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, C<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>8</sub>-cycloalkylcarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylcarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, N-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfonyl)-aminocarbonyl, N-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylsulfonyl)-N-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl)-aminocarbonyl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl, heteroarylcarbonyl or heterocyclylcarbonyl, wherein C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, mono- and di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkylcarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, heteroaryl and heterocyclyl can be substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of aryl, heteroaryl, hydroxy, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, hydroxycarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- and di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, amino, mono- and di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylamino, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonylamino, tri-(C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl)-silyl, cyano, mono- and di-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylamino-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy-C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylaminocarbonyl and halogen,

or

$R^6$  represents a moiety of the formula



wherein

$R^{6A}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, and

$n$  represents an integer of 1 or 2,

$R^7$  represents halogen, nitro, cyano,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, hydroxy or  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxy, wherein  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl is further substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy and  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy, and  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxy can be further substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy and  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy,

and

$Y^1$ ,  $Y^2$ ,  $Y^3$ ,  $Y^4$  and  $Y^5$  independently from each other represent CH or N, wherein the ring contains either 0, 1 or 2 nitrogen atoms,

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Currently amended) The compound of general formula (I) according to Claim 1, wherein

A represents an aryl or heteroaryl ring,

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  independently from each other represent hydrogen, halogen, nitro, cyano,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, hydroxy or  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxy, wherein  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl and  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxy can be further substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy and  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy,

$R^4$  represents  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkylcarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxycarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkenoxycarbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylaminocarbonyl,  $C_6$ - $C_{10}$ -arylaminocarbonyl, heteroarylcarbonyl, heterocyclylcarbonyl, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl or cyano, wherein  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkylcarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxycarbonyl, mono- and di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylaminocarbonyl can be further substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of  $C_3$ - $C_8$ -cycloalkyl, hydroxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxycarbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- and di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylaminocarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylcarbonyl-amino, amino, mono- and di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylamino, heteroaryl, heterocyclyl and tri- $(C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl)-silyl,

$R^5$  represents  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, which can be substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkenoxo,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkylthio, amino, mono- and di- $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkylamino, arylamino, hydroxycarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxycarbonyl and the radical - $O$ - $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl- $O$ - $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl,

or

$R^5$  represents amino,

$R^6$  represents hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, formyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- or di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylaminocarbonyl,  $C_3$ - $C_8$ -cycloalkylcarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkylcarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxycarbonyl,  $N$ -( $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylsulfonyl)-aminocarbonyl,  $N$ -( $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl-

or

\*CC(=O)N1CCN(R^{6A})CC1, 
 \*CC(=O)N1CCOCC1
 or 
 \*CC(=O)N1CCCC1
 ( $(CH_2)_n$ )

R<sup>6A</sup> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, and

R<sup>7</sup> represents halogen, nitro, cyano, C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl, hydroxy or C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy, wherein C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkyl is further substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy, and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>6</sub>-alkoxy can be further substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of halogen, hydroxy and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxy,

and

$Y^1$ ,  $Y^2$ ,  $Y^3$ ,  $Y^4$  and  $Y^5$  independently from each other represent CH or N, wherein the ring contains either 0, 1 or 2 nitrogen atoms.

3. (Currently amended) The compound of general formula (I) according to Claim 1, wherein

A represents a phenyl, naphthyl or pyridyl ring,

$R^1$ ,  $R^2$  and  $R^3$  independently from each other represent hydrogen, fluoro, chloro, bromo, nitro, cyano, methyl, ethyl, trifluoromethyl or trifluoromethoxy,

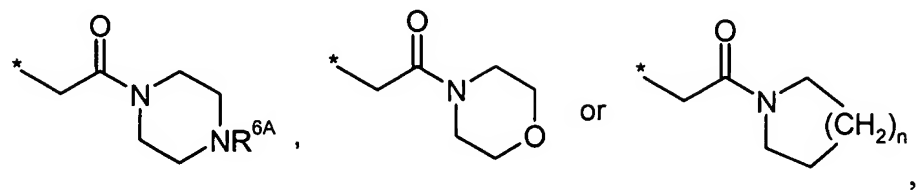
$R^4$  represents  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkylcarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxycarbonyl, hydroxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylaminocarbonyl or cyano, wherein  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkylcarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxycarbonyl and mono- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylaminocarbonyl can be substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of  $C_3$ - $C_8$ -cycloalkyl, hydroxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxycarbonyl, amino, mono- or di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylamino, heteroaryl and heterocyclyl,

$R^5$  represents methyl or ethyl,

$R^6$  represents hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl, mono- or di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylaminocarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkylcarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxycarbonyl or heterocyclylcarbonyl, wherein  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkyl and  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxycarbonyl can be substituted with one to three identical or different radicals selected from the group consisting of heteroaryl, hydroxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy, hydroxycarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_6$ -alkoxycarbonyl, aminocarbonyl, mono- and di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylaminocarbonyl, cyano, amino, mono- and di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylamino,

or

R<sup>6</sup> represents a moiety of the formula



wherein

R<sup>6A</sup> is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkyl, and

$n$  represents an integer of 1 or 2,

R<sup>7</sup> represents halogen, nitro, cyano, trifluoromethyl, or trifluoromethoxy, ~~methyl or ethyl~~,

and

$Y^1, Y^2, Y^3, Y^4$  and  $Y^5$  each represent CH.

4. (Previously Presented) The compound of general formula (I) according to Claim 1, wherein

A represents a phenyl or a pyridyl ring,

R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>3</sup> each represent hydrogen,

R<sup>2</sup> represents fluoro, chloro, bromo, nitro or cyano,

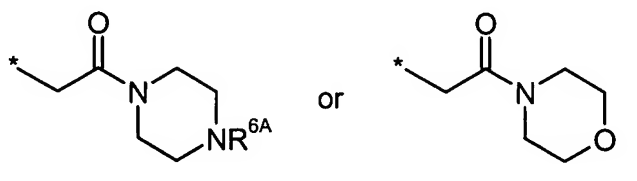
$R^4$  represents cyano,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylcarbonyl or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxycarbonyl, wherein  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxycarbonyl can be substituted with a radical selected from the group consisting of hydroxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxycarbonyl, mono- and di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylamino, heteroaryl and heterocyclyl,

$R^5$  represents methyl,

$R^6$  represents hydrogen,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl, mono- or di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylaminocarbonyl,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylcarbonyl or  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxycarbonyl, wherein  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkyl and  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxycarbonyl can be substituted with a radical selected from the group consisting of heteroaryl, hydroxy,  $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkoxy, hydroxycarbonyl, amino-carbonyl, mono- and di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylaminocarbonyl, amino, mono- and di- $C_1$ - $C_4$ -alkylamino,

or

$R^6$  represents a moiety of the formula



wherein

$R^{6A}$  is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and methyl,

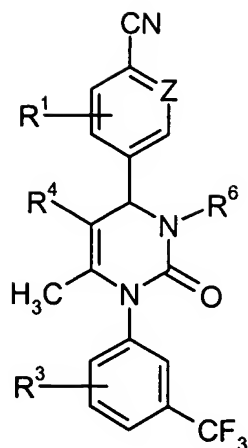
$R^7$  represents trifluoromethyl or nitro,

and

$Y^1$ ,  $Y^2$ ,  $Y^3$ ,  $Y^4$  and  $Y^5$  each represent CH.



5. (Previously presented) The compound of general formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein A is phenyl or pyridyl.
6. (Previously Presented) The compound of general formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>1</sup> is hydrogen.
7. (Previously Presented) The compound of general formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>2</sup> is cyano.
8. (Previously Presented) The compound of general formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>3</sup> is hydrogen.
9. (Previously Presented) The compound of general formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>4</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkoxycarbonyl optionally substituted by hydroxy or wherein R<sup>4</sup> is C<sub>1</sub>-C<sub>4</sub>-alkylcarbonyl.
10. (Previously Presented) The compound of general formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>5</sup> is methyl.
11. (Previously Presented) The compound of general formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>6</sup> is hydrogen.
12. (Previously Presented) The compound of general formula (I) according to claim 1, wherein R<sup>7</sup> is trifluoromethyl or nitro.
13. (Previously Presented) A compound of general formula (IA)

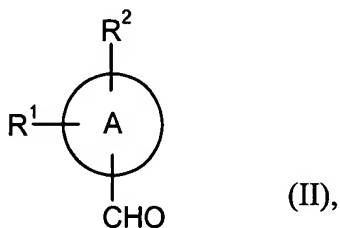


wherein

Z represents CH or N, and

R<sup>1</sup>, R<sup>3</sup>, R<sup>4</sup> and R<sup>6</sup> have the meaning indicated in claim 1.

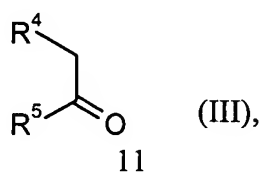
14. (Previously Presented) A process for synthesizing the compounds of general formula (I), as defined in claim 1 by condensing compounds of general formula (II)



wherein

A, R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> have the meaning indicated in claim 1,

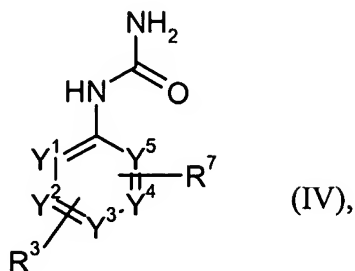
with compounds of general formula (III)



wherein

$R^4$  and  $R^5$  have the meaning indicated in claim 1,

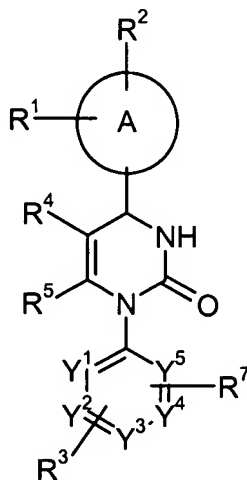
and compounds of general formula (IV)



wherein

$R^3$ ,  $R^7$ , and  $Y^1$  to  $Y^5$  have the meaning indicated in claim 1,

in the presence of an acid either in a three-component / one-step reaction or sequentially to give compounds of the general formula (IB)



wherein

A,  $R^1$  to  $R^5$ ,  $R^7$ , and  $Y^1$  to  $Y^5$  have the meaning indicated in claim 1,

optionally followed by reaction of the compounds of general formula (IB) with compounds of the general formula (V)



wherein

$R^{6*}$  has the meaning of  $R^6$  as indicated in claim 1, but does not represent hydrogen, and

X represents a leaving group,

in the presence of a base.

15. (Currently amended) A composition containing at least one compound of general formula (I) ~~or (IA)~~ as defined in claim 1 and a pharmacologically acceptable diluent.
16. (Cancelled)
17. (Currently amended) A process for the preparation of ~~compositions~~ a composition, said process comprising a step of bringing according to Claim 15 characterized in that the compounds of general formula (I) as defined in claim 1 together with customary auxiliaries are brought into a suitable application form; wherein said composition contains at least one compound of general formula (I) and a pharmacologically acceptable diluent.
18. (Cancelled)
19. (Currently amended) A method of treating acute and chronic inflammatory, ischaemic or remodelling processes, comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a compound of ~~a compound of~~ claim 1 .
20. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 19, wherein the process is chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, acute coronary syndrome, acute myocardial infarction or development of heart failure.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, wherein a neutrophil elastase inhibitory amount is administered.
22. (New) A composition containing at least one compound of general formula (IA) as defined in claim 13 and a pharmacologically acceptable diluent.
23. (New) A process for preparation of a composition, said process comprising a step of bringing the compounds of general formula (IA) as defined in claim 13 together with customary auxiliaries into a suitable application form; wherein said composition contains at least one compound of general formula (IA) and a pharmacologically acceptable diluent.
24. (New) Ethyl 4-(4-cyanophenyl)-6-methyl-1-(3-methylphenyl)-2-oxo-1,2,3,4-tetrahydro-5-pyrimidinecarboxylate, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.